

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00
PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01
SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05 EB-08 /067 W
-----092110Z 114949 /64

O R 091830Z FEB 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1618
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT

S E C R E T USNATO 0717

EO11652 GDS
TAGS MPOL NATO
SUBJECT THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP (EWG) AND THE NORWEGIAN
RESERVATIONS ON FLEXIBILITY STUDIES

REFS (A) USNATO 0716 DTG 091805Z FEB 77
(B) USNATO 0673 DTG 072029Z FEB 77

SUMMARY: BY NOTE (TEXT PROVIDED BY REF A) D/SYG PANSAS HAS CALLED
A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EWG FOR FEB 14, 1977. ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL
TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION IS THE NORWEGIAN RESERVATION ON FLEXIBILITY
ISSUES AS THEY APPLY TO OUT-OF-AREA OPERATIONS. COMMENTS ON
OTHER TOPICS TO BE CONSIDERED AT MEETING ARE PROVIDED BY SEPTELS
(TURKEY REF A, AND SPAIN REF B). ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 4.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE LETTER FROM THE NORWEGIAN REP ON EWG MENTIONED IN REF B
ALSO CONTAINED A PARA THAT ADDRESSED SACLANT'S FLEXIBILITY STUDY
RECOMMENDATIONS DEALING WITH PLANS FOR ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE NATO
SECRET

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AREA. TEXT OF THE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH IS QUOTE:

QUESTIONS CONCERNING OUT-OF-AREA ACTIVITIES ARE CURRENTLY UNDER
CONSIDERATION IN DPC-CONTEXT. WITH THIS BACKGROUND, AND BEARING
IN MIND THE RESTRICTIONS ON SACLANT'S PLANNING AUTHORITY (PO/72/381
(REVISED)), IT IS THE VIEW OF THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT THAT ITEM
M-12 THROUGH M-15 SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED IN EWG/DRC PENDING
FURTHER POLITICAL CLARIFICATION. END QUOTE.

2. THE ITEMS M-12 THROUGH M-15 CITED IN THE SECOND PARA OF THE

ABOVE TEXT AND AS EXTRACTED FROM AC-281-WP(77)1 (POUCHED TO PENTAGON REF.NO. 3847, JAN 14, 1977 AND TO STATE REG.NO. 770667, JAN 8, 1977) ARE: QUOTE:

M-12 ABANDONMENT OF NATO'S GEOGRAPHIC MARITIME BOUNDARIES IN TIMES OF TENSION.

M-13 NATIONS TO BE GIVEN ADVICE BY NATO ON POSSIBILITIES FOR CO-ORDINATION OF NAVAL ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE NATO BOUNDARIES.

M-14 NATO AND NATIONS ESTABLISH CONTACT OUTSIDE THE NATO AREA IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH BASE AND SUPPORT FACILITIES.

M-15 CONTINGENCY PLANS TO BE EXERCISED OUTSIDE THE NATO AREA.
END QUOTE.

FYI: THE RESTRICTIONS CITED ON SACLAN'T'S PLANNING AUTHORITY (PO/72/381 REVISED) WERE APPROVED BY THE DPC ON OCTOBER 31, 1972. THEY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS: QUOTE:

- A. ANY SUCH PLANS WOULD REQUIRE THE APPROVAL OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE;
 - B. PLANS WOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED OR EXERCISED IN ANY FORM WITHOUT THE SPECIFIC AUTHORITY OF THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE;
 - C. SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE PROTECTION OF OIL SUPPLY ROUTES;
 - D. AGREEMENT TO SUCH PLANNING SHOULD IN NO WAY BE INTERPRETED AS REMOVAL OF THE SOUTHERN ATLANTIC MARITIME BOUNDARY, NOR AS ACCEPTANCE BY NATIONS OF ADDITIONAL MARITIME COMMITMENTS.
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END QUOTE. END FYI.

3. COMMENT: WE SEE NOTHING IN THE RESTRICTIONS ON SACLAN'T'S PLANNING AUTHORITY WHICH PREVENTS THE EWG FROM CONSIDERING RECOMMENDATIONS M-12 THROUGH M-15. IN OUR VIEW, THE RESTRICTIONS UNDER POINTS A, B AND D OF PARA 2 ARE REASSURING IN THAT THEY IMPOSE SAFEGUARDS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDY RESULTS. THE CURRENT EFFORT OF THE EWG IS IN ITSELF WITHIN A DPC CONTEXT. WE THINK THE EWG'S EFFORT TO ASSIGN FLEXIBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THEIR APPROPRIATE BODIES FOR STUDY IS FULLY JUSTIFIED SINCE THE EWG IS ACTING TO CARRY OUT DPC MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE TO PROVIDE OVERALL DIRECTION FOR THE FLEXIBILITY STUDIES. ALL MEMBERS OF THE EWG WILL HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO STATE WHETHER, IN THEIR VIEW, MILITARY REQUIREMENTS WARRANT A CHANGE IN SACLAN'T'S RESTRICTIONS, OR TO RAISE OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ARGUMENTS IN THE COURSE OF COMMITTEE ACTION ON THE INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDATIONS. END COMMENT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON CONCURRENCE IN OR COMMENT ON THIS INTERPRETATION OF THE EWG'S CURRENT PROCEDURAL ROLE AND GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR THE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1977 EWG MEETING. STRAUZS-HUPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO00717
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770298/baaabbrx.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 98e421cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3472235
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040803
Subject: SUBJECT THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP (EWG) AND THE NORWEGIAN RESERVATIONS ON FLEXIBILITY STUDIES
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE SECDEF MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/98e421cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009